FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 5/1/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM SAC, SPRINGFIELD (44-561) -P-

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re: Telephone call to Springfield from Inspector THOMAS E. BISHOP, SOG, 4/24/68.

[redacted] wife of [redacted] was contacted at the residence of her father, [redacted] Lexington, Illinois, on 4/30/68. [redacted] advised she and her husband were at the [redacted] residence the weekend of 4/20-22/68. She advised that on the night of 4/21/68 or early morning of 4/22/68 her husband was awakened by the dogs barking outside the farm residence which is located up a farm lane one-half mile from the main rural road. She advised her husband and her father, [redacted] upon making a search of the outside area, found that the [redacted] 1967 Oldsmobile Delta "88", cream colored with black vinyl top, had been broken into. [redacted] advised nothing was missing from the car and no one was located or seen in the area. [redacted] advised her husband left alone from the [redacted] residence on the morning of 4/22/68 en route Detroit, Michigan.

[redacted] advised that in a short period of time, [redacted] returned to the [redacted] residence. Upon his return,

3 - Bureau (44-38861)
2 - Chicago (44-1114)
2 - Cleveland
2 - Detroit
2 - Indianapolis
2 - Louisville
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Miami
2 - New Orleans
2 - St. Louis (44-775)
2 - Kansas City (44-760)
2 - Springfield (44-561)

REC-44 44-38861-3003

10 MAY 6 1968

ALW:vr
(25)

Approved: Bishop
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

4

[redacted] stated he had found a note in the recessed area of the speedometer of his car. [redacted] pointed out that the speedometer has been broken; therefore, her husband was not normally attracted to the speedometer). She related this note was made up of words cut from newspapers and pasted on the back of a pocket calender (unable to describe the calendar). [redacted] said the note read in substance, "If you go to the police or the FBI you will be killed." [redacted] advised her husband, after returning with the note, proceeded en route Detroit, Michigan, and after a short period of time had elapsed, he telephonically contacted her, stating he was at the Holiday Inn, Bloomington, Illinois. [redacted] stated her husband informed her that upon reaching the road one mile north of the [redacted] residence, and Route 66, he saw a 1966 or 1967 Chevrolet, tan in color, no license information, with two men in the car, parked along the road. [redacted] stated her husband told her that this car followed him en route Bloomington. However, they did not turn into the Holiday Inn when he did. [redacted] advised her husband then told her he was proceeding on to Detroit, Michigan,

[redacted] advised upon discussing above with her parents, her mother, [redacted], stated she had noticed a late model, tan car, making several trips on the main rural road near the [redacted] residence on the early morning of 4/22/68.

[redacted] advised that on the night of 4/22/68 her husband telephonically contacted her, but he would not disclose his location as he stated he was afraid to mention his location over the phone. She related her husband told her that he stopped at a rest stop area after leaving Indianapolis, Indiana. Upon leaving his car and walking the direction of the men's restroom, he saw a tan automobile occupied by two men driving very slow. He stated at this time the rider in this automobile fired a shot at him. [redacted] told his wife the shot just missed his ear and he, [redacted] hit the ground where he laid as if he had been hit. [redacted] stated that the tan car disappeared and he has not seen it since.

[redacted] stated her husband believesthis action was due to his being in the men's restroom at the Gulf Truck Stop, Lebanon, Tennessee, on 3/27/68, where he allegedly overheard five men planning to kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. [redacted] stated her husband told her that one of the men in the restroom was RAY, whom he recognized after RAY's photograph was published. She stated he further informed her that he would be able to recognize the other men he saw in the restroom. [redacted] advised she recalls being at the Gulf Truck Stop at Lebanon, Tennessee, on 3/29/68. She stated upon their leaving the truck stop, her husband did not mention to her anything of hearing of the plan to kill KING. She stated she does recall her

husband remarked, "If King goes back to Memphis he will be killed." advised her husband did say he wanted to see CARL STERN of NBC, Washington, D.C, whom he knew but did not state why he desired to see STERN.

advised her husband returned to the residence at Lexington, Illinois, on Friday, 4/26/68, where he stayed until the morning of Saturday, 4/27/68, at which time and his mother-in-law had an argument over son by a previous marriage. told to leave, which he did.

stated she told her husband she had contacted Mr. DONALD T. SULLIVAN, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Springfield Office of the FBI, and that he, should call Mr. SULLIVAN and set up an appointment; that Mr. SULLIVAN had informed her he would make an appointment to meet at any location or at any time when was available. stated her husband told her he was afraid to attempt to meet with FBI Agents, as he felt he was being followed. stated she was unable to convince her husband to make arrangements for a meeting with the FBI. She advised her husband is very much interested in obtaining protection.

advised of some of her husband's activities, which are not concerning the murder of Dr. KING. She advised that she does not know all of her husband's business and that she is sure he has not told her all he knows.

advised her husband is acquainted with of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who told in the summer of 1967 that there were several businessmen in the area of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who were taking up a collection to obtain money to have KING assassinated. advised her husband is well acquainted in the Baton Rouge and Denham Springs, Louisiana, area. She stated he was, in the summer of 1967, connected with . She related lives in Dallas, Texas. She related had an equipment rental business and while and were attempting to rent the equipment they were trying to gain financing for a recreational park in Louisiana similar to "Six Flags Over Texas." She related that some way they came in contact with a and of Miami, Florida, who advised they could finance same but were not interested, in a recreational park but would be interested in financing a horse racing track. advised obtained to help locate his land which could be used as a horse racing park. He also obtained sanction of the sheriff,(FNU) IRWIN and both of Slidell, La; however, "things got out of hand" and an article

appeared in "Life" magazine, and the Governor of Louisiana placed a stop to the entire operation.

[redacted] advised her husband is in telephonic contact with her daily but declines to furnish information as to his location over the telephone, as he is very afraid. [redacted] was advised to inform her husband if he has any information he desires to furnish to the FBI, he can contact any FBI Field Office, who will then arrange for an interview with him.

For information receiving offices, Inspector THOMAS E. BISHOP, SOG, on 4-24-68 advised he had received a telephone call from CARL STERN, Washington, D. C., NBC Office, who told him that a man [redacted] whom he had met on one occasion while covering a story in the South, had, on 4-24-68, telephoned him from someplace around Toledo, Ohio. [redacted] informed him he was en route to the home of his wife's parents in Lexington, Illinois. He then told STERN a "fantastic tale" about him, [redacted] overhearing a conversation on 3-29-68 in Lebanon, Tennessee, concerning the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING. Apparently [redacted] was of the impression that the people involved in the conversation knew he had overheard them, and they had taken his license number. [redacted] believed there had been at least one shot fired at him since that time. [redacted] informed STERN he had vital information concerning KING's murder and called STERN for advice as to what he should do. STERN advised [redacted] to call the Springfield Office of the FBI and they would make arrangements to have someone meet him at his convenience in their territory. According to Mr. STERN, BISHOP stated that [redacted] is afraid to approach any office and may desire to have someone meet him at a location other than an office.

The files of the Springfield Office contain the following references to [redacted], however, it cannot be determined at this point whether or not they refer to [redacted] of Lexington, Illinois:

On 11-19-65 [redacted], 6'1" - 2", 175 lbs., employed [redacted] near Edwardsville, Illinois, and [redacted] at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, Illinois, [redacted]

SI 44-561

In 10-66 [redacted] had represented himself as an employee of [redacted], of Illinois, registering at two motels at Bloomington, Illinois, and had skipped without properly checking out and without paying for his room. [redacted] could not be located at that time but was described as a white, male, 35 - 40, 5'10" - 6', 150 lbs., dark brown hair, medium build and medium complexion. [redacted]

[redacted] whose FBI No. was given as [redacted] was twice a patient at hospitals, one as a patient at the Patton State Hospital concerning which fingerprints were furnished by the State Bureau of Identification, Sacramento, California, on [redacted]60 and subsequently again on [redacted]60, was a patient at Atascadero State Hospital, California. That individual was described as white, male, approximately 6'3", 190 lbs., fair complexion, hazel eyes, brown hair and was considered to have suicidal tendencies.

A check through NCIC on 4-30-68 indicated [redacted] was not currently wanted.